UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/51/L.40
26 November 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE

DRAFT BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SECOND COMMITTEE FOR 1997-1998

Note by the Secretariat

The General Assembly, in its resolution 39/217 of 18 December 1984, paragraph 5, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Second Committee for consideration and approval each year a proposed biennial programme of work. The draft biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 1997-1998, which is annexed to the present document, has been prepared on the basis of existing legislative authority. It also takes into account the draft proposals on which the Second Committee has taken action. The information contained in the annex, including that on documentation, will be updated orally by the Secretariat when the draft biennial programme of work for 1997-1998 is considered by the Committee.

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ANNEX

Draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 1997-1998*

1997

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council[1]

Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1999-2000

Documentation Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

Documentation Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on progress in the implementation of the global strategy for the prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) (General Assembly resolution 47/40)[2]

World Food Summit

Documentation Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the outcome of the World Food Summit (General Assembly resolution 50/109)[3]

Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan (Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/40)[4]

Coordination of the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in the field of energy

Documentation Report of the Secretary-General on the possibilities of strengthening the coordination of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the field of energy (Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/44)[5]

New and innovative ideas for generating funds

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of new and innovative ideas for generating funds for globally agreed commitments and priorities (Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/48)

Item 2. Macroeconomic policy questions

(a) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/93 as related to the preparations for the convening of an international conference on the financing of development

Report of the Secretary-General on global financial integration and the strengthening of collaboration between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.28)

(b) Trade and development

Documentation — Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/96 on economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries (General Assembly resolution 50/97)

(c) Science and technology for development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/101

(d) Commodities

Documentation — Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on world commodity trends and prospects (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.14)

(e) External debt crisis and development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.24

Item 3. Sectoral policy questions

(a) Industrial development cooperation

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/94 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

(b) Business and development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 48/180)

(c) Food and sustainable agricultural development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition and the World Food Summit Plan of Action[5] (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.38)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the outcome of the World Food Summit[5] (General Assembly resolution 50/109 and draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.38)

Item 4. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

(a) Agenda for development

(i) Agenda for development

No documentation requested

(ii) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.21

(b) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/103

(c) Population and development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.43

(d) International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 50/123)

(e) Implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Documentation — Report of the Commission on Human Settlements, including the report of the Commission on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 (General Assembly resolutions 32/162, 43/180 and 43/181)[5]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.15[5]

(f) First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.18, including the overall assessment of the implementation of the programme for the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty

(g) Women in development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development (General Assembly resolutions 42/178 and 50/104)[5]

(h) Human resources development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/105

(i) Cultural development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on progress in the implementation of the World Decade for Cultural Development (General Assembly resolutions 41/187, 44/238, 45/189, 46/157 and 49/105 and Economic and Social Council decision 1996/206)[c]

Item 5. Environment and sustainable development

Documentation — Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII))[c]

Note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment (General Assembly resolution 3436 (XXX))

Oral report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/110

(a) Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Documentation — Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fifth session (General Assembly resolution 47/191)

(b) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/114 on desertification and drought, and draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.39

(c) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the arrangements for administrative support to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (General Assembly resolution 50/115)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the results of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.33)

(d) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/117 B

Report of the Secretary-General on the format, substance and timing of the final event of the Decade (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.42)

(e) Convention on Biological Diversity

Documentation — Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the results of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.31)

(f) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Documentation — Progress report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.35)

(g) Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the special session (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.41)

Item 6. Operational activities for development

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Documentation — Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

(b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Documentation — Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (General Assembly resolution 33/134)[c]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/118 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation (General Assembly resolution 50/119)

Item 7. Training and research

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Documentation — Report of the Executive Director of the Institute (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.27)

Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.27)

Item 8. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.30/Rev.1

1998[d]

Item 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council[e]

United Nations Population Award

Documentation — Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the United Nations Population Award and Trust Fund (Economic and Social Council decision 1982/112)

Public administration and development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on public administration and development (General Assembly resolution 50/225)[c]

Item 2. Macroeconomic policy questions

(a) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.26

(b) Trade and development

Documentation — Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX))[5]

Note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.25

Item 3. Sectoral policy questions

(a) Industrial development cooperation

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.12

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on best practices and lessons learned in the field of industrial development (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.12)

(b) Food and sustainable agricultural development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition and the World Food Summit Plan of Action[6] (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.38)

(c) Business and development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.37

Item 4. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/130 and draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.45 on

communication for development programmes in the United Nations system

(a) Implementation and follow-up to major consensus agreements on development

(i) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries

(ii) Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and on the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolutions 45/199, 47/152, 48/185 and 49/92 and draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.32)

(b) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolutions 48/181 and 49/106 and draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.17)

(c) Implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Documentation — Report of the Commission on Human Settlements (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.15)

(d) First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

Documentation — No documentation requested (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.18)

(e) Cultural development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the follow-up to the report of the World Commission on Culture and Development (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.34)

Item 5. Environment and sustainable development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment (General Assembly resolution 34/173)[c]

(a) Implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Documentation — Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session (General Assembly resolution 47/191)

(b) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the plans, programmes and projects for the sustainable development of small island developing States that have been implemented in response to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (General Assembly resolution 50/116 and draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.35)

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council containing the views of the Committee for Development Planning on the report of the Secretary-General on the vulnerability index (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.35)

Item 6. Operational activities for development

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly to review the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.44)

(a) Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Documentation — Report of the Secretary-General on the triennial policy review of operational activities undertaken by the United Nations development system (General Assembly resolution 50/120)[c]

Item 7. Training and research

United Nations University

Documentation Report of the Council of the United Nations University

Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.20)

Notes

[a] The Second Committee will, in accordance with established practice and in pursuance of General Assembly decision 38/429, hold a general debate each year at the beginning of its work.

[b] The list of questions and documentation under this item corresponds to requests for reports from the General Assembly. The list will be finalized after the Economic and Social Council completes its work in 1997.

[c] Report submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

[d] The programme of work and documentation list for 1998 will be updated in 1997, taking into account the relevant decisions of the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

[e] The list of questions and documentation under this item is only indicative of requests for reports from the General Assembly. The list will be finalized after the Council completes its work in 1997.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/51/L.41
26 November 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 97 (b)

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: SPECIAL SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF AN OVERALL REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Mohammad Reza Hadji Karim Djabbary (Islamic Republic of Iran), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.9

Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/190 of 22 December 1992, in which it decided to convene, not later than 1997, a special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21,[1]

Reaffirming its resolution 50/113 of 22 December 1995, as the agreed basis that determines the modalities for the preparations for the special session, including the relevant role of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as the functional commission of the Economic and Social Council mandated to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as the role of other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system,

[1] Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

Strongly reaffirming that the special session for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 will be undertaken on the basis of and in full respect of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2]

Taking note of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the 1997 special session,[3] and taking into account the views and concerns expressed by delegations to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fourth session, the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session and the Second Committee of the General Assembly at its fifty-first session,

1. Decides to convene the special session envisaged in its resolution 47/190 for a duration of one week, from 23 to 27 June 1997, at the highest political level of participation;

2. Decides also that the Commission on Sustainable Development will devote the forthcoming meeting of its ad hoc open-ended inter-sessional working group, to be held from 24 February to 7 March 1997, to preparing for the special session, and that the Commission will devote its fifth session, to be held from 7 to 25 April 1997 as a negotiating meeting, to final preparations for the special session for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21;

3. Recognizes the important contributions made by major groups, including non-governmental organizations, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and in the implementation of its recommendations, and the need for their effective participation in preparations for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements, taking into account the practice and experience gained at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, for their substantive contributions to and active involvement in the preparatory meetings and the special session, and in that context invites the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for the effective involvement of major groups in the special session;

4. Decides to invite States members of the specialized agencies which are not members of the United Nations to participate in the work of the special session in the capacity of observers;

5. Stresses that there should be no attempt to renegotiate Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Non-Legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests[4] or other

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[2] Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development ..., resolution 1, annex I.

[3] A/51/420.

[4] Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development ..., resolution 1, annex III.

internationally recognized intergovernmental agreements in the field of environment and sustainable development, and that discussions at both the preparatory meetings and the special session should focus on the fulfilment of commitments and the further implementation of Agenda 21 and related post-Conference outcomes;

6. Requests the Secretariat to provide all relevant reports called for in General Assembly resolution 50/113, including all other reports related to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, for consideration by the ad hoc open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Sustainable Development and by the Commission at its fifth session, in accordance with the six-week rule and preferably not later than 15 January 1997;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that preparations for the comprehensive report are conducted in accordance with paragraph 13 (a), (b), (c) and (d) of Assembly resolution 50/113;

8. Invites the Secretary-General to include in the reports requested in Assembly resolution 50/113 for the preparation of the special session information on the application of the principles contained in the Rio Declaration, and invites the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to include in its report to the General Assembly at its special session information and views on ways to address, in a forward-looking manner, national, regional and international application of these principles and the implementation of Agenda 21 in the interrelated issues of environment and development;

9. Decides to consider at its special session, inter alia, the application of the principles of the Rio Declaration at all levels - national, regional and international - and to make relevant recommendations thereon;

10. Also requests that other contributions to the special session, in addition to those identified in its resolution 50/113, include submissions from relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations, including the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Global Environmental Facility, information on the outcomes of United Nations conferences held since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, such as the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[5] regional and subregional conferences, summits and other inter-sessional meetings on sustainable development organized by countries, and information on the activities of relevant United Nations conventions on the environment and development and the global freshwater assessment, and that account be taken of the activities organized by major groups, including business and industry and non-governmental organizations;

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[5] Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. 94.I.18 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

11. Further requests the Secretary-General, in the report on cross-sectoral issues of Agenda 21 for the special session, to give special consideration, without prejudice to other priority issues that may be identified in the preparatory process, to combating poverty and to health, financial resources and mechanisms, education, science, transfer of technology, consumption and production patterns, trade, environment and sustainable development, major groups, demographic dynamics, capacity-building and decision-making;

12. Requests the Secretary-General, in the reports for the special session, to give consideration, where appropriate and without prejudice to other priority issues that may be identified in the preparatory process, to linkages between the cross-sectoral issues of Agenda 21 and relevant sectoral issues;

13. Welcomes the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul from 3 to 14 June 1996, and its relevance to the field of sustainable development, calls for effective interaction and exchange of information on work carried out by the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Commission on Human Settlements, and invites the Commission on Human Settlements to make a contribution to the special session in connection with the implementation of the Habitat Agenda[6] adopted in Istanbul;

14. Invites Governments and regional organizations to cooperate with the Secretary-General in preparing country profiles for review at the fifth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as envisaged in paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 50/113;

15. Invites Governments to assist developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, in participating fully in the special session and its preparatory process, and to make timely contributions to the Trust Fund for Support of the Work of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to enhance the public information programme of the United Nations so as to raise global awareness in a balanced manner, in all countries, of both the special session and the work undertaken by the United Nations in the follow-up to the Conference, and invites all Governments to promote widespread dissemination at all levels of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and to make voluntary contributions to support the public outreach activities of the United Nations for the special session;

17. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the sub-item entitled "Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a report on the special session.

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[6] A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/51/L.42
26 November 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 97 (f)

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Mohammad Reza Hadji Karim Djabbary (Islamic Republic of Iran), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.4

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 48/188 of 21 December 1993, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, and 50/117 A and 50/117 B, both of 20 December 1995, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/45 of 26 July 1996,

Expressing its solidarity with the people and countries that suffer as a result of natural disasters and expressing also the deepest sympathy to all victims of the natural disasters that have struck in various parts of the globe,

Emphasizing once again the urgent need for concrete measures to reduce the vulnerability of societies to natural hazards, the loss of human lives and the heavy physical and economic damage that occur as a result of natural disasters, in particular in developing countries, small island developing States and landlocked countries,

Commending those countries, national and local institutions, organizations and associations that have adopted policies, allocated resources and initiated action programmes, including international assistance, for disaster reduction and, in this context, welcoming the participation of private companies and individuals,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;[1]

2. Reaffirms that disaster reduction forms an integral part of sustainable development strategies and national development plans of vulnerable countries and communities;

3. Calls upon all States, relevant intergovernmental bodies and all others involved in the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction to participate actively in the financial and technical support for Decade activities, in order to ensure the implementation of the International Framework of Action for the Decade,[2] in particular with a view to translating the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and the Plan of Action contained therein[3] into concrete disaster reduction programmes and activities;

4. Commends all countries, in particular those developing and least developed countries, that have mobilized domestic resources for disaster reduction activities and have facilitated the effective implementation of such activities, and encourages all developing countries concerned to continue in this direction;

5. Reaffirms the need to support the implementation of the Yokohama Strategy and its Plan of Action with particular regard to improving education and training in disaster reduction, including the creation of interdisciplinary and technical networking at all levels, for the purpose of capacity-building and human resources development in developing countries, in particular those that are prone to natural disasters, as well as least developed, small island developing and landlocked countries;

6. Welcomes the initiatives aimed at defining regional frameworks for disaster mitigation, such as the regional seminars held in Africa and the Mediterranean;

7. Stresses the need for synergy between the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[4] and that of the Yokohama Strategy and its Plan of Action as they relate to natural disaster reduction;

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[1] A/51/186-E/1996/80.

[2] See resolution 44/236, annex.

[3] A/CONF.172/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

8. Underlines the need for the United Nations system to ensure the integration of the Yokohama Strategy and its Plan of Action into the coordinated approach taken to the follow-up to all recent major United Nations conferences and summit meetings and to the implementation of their respective plans of action;

9. Invites the Secretary-General, in particular, to facilitate, within the existing International Framework of Action for the Decade, an internationally concerted framework for improvements in early warning by developing a concrete proposal for an effective international mechanism on early warning, to include the transfer of technologies related to early warning to developing countries, under the auspices of the United Nations and as part of the implementation of the International Framework of Action for the Decade and the Yokohama Strategy and its Plan of Action;

10. Calls upon the secretariat of the Decade to continue to facilitate a concerted international approach to improvements in early warning capacities for natural disasters and similar disasters with adverse impact on the environment within the process leading towards the closing event of the Decade;

11. Recommends that adequate consideration be given to the International Framework of Action for the Decade as part of the evaluation and overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21[5] in 1997;

12. Reaffirms that the secretariat of the Decade will continue to serve as the substantive secretariat for the preparation of the closing event of the Decade, working with the full support of relevant bodies of the United Nations Secretariat and drawing on the contributions of the organizations of the United Nations system concerned, other international organizations and Governments;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to appeal for additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Decade;

14. Also requests the Secretary-General to bring forward, as a first step in the process leading towards the closing event of the Decade, and in order to begin the preparatory process in 1998, proposals arising from consultation with interested parties, and set forth in his substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, regarding the format, substance and timing of the event, also taking into account, inter alia, the need to review relationships and responsibilities relevant to natural disaster reduction with respect to the future and the performance capability of the secretariat of the Decade.

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[5] Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum, resolution 1, annex II).

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/51/L.43
26 November 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 96 (d)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Mohammad Reza Hadji Karim Djabbary (Islamic Republic of Iran), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.19

Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/128 of 19 December 1994 and 50/124 of 20 December 1995,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/2 of 17 July 1996 on follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development,

Acknowledging fully the integrated approach taken during the International Conference on Population and Development, which recognizes the interrelationship between population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/124,[1]

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/124;

[1] A/51/350.

2. Notes the action taken so far by Governments and the international community to implement the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[2] and encourages them to strengthen their efforts in that regard;

3. Reiterates that Governments should continue to commit themselves at the highest political level to achieving goals and objectives and to take a lead role in coordinating the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the follow-up actions at national levels;

4. Urges all countries to consider, among other things, their current spending priorities, with a view to making additional contributions in line with national priorities for the implementation of the Programme of Action, taking into account the provisions of chapters XIII and XIV thereof and the economic constraints faced by developing countries, in particular the least developed among them;

5. Emphasizes that international cooperation in the field of population and development is essential for the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the Conference and, in this context, calls upon the international community to continue to provide, both bilaterally and multilaterally, adequate and substantial support and assistance for population and development activities, including through the United Nations Population Fund, other organs and organizations of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies that will be involved in the implementation, at all levels, of the Programme of Action;

6. Reiterates the importance of South-South cooperation for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action, and invites all Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the private sector and non-governmental organizations, to continue to support those activities in South-South cooperation being undertaken by the developing countries;

7. Recognizes the efforts of Partners in Population and Development in strengthening the capacities of developing countries in South-South cooperation;

8. Emphasizes the importance of the identification and allocation of financial resources by all members of the international community, including regional financial institutions, to enable them to fulfil their commitments with regard to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

9. Requests the Economic and Social Council to continue to give guidance on matters concerning harmonization, cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system regarding the implementation of the Programme of Action;

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[2] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

10. Reiterates that the Commission on Population and Development, as a functional commission assisting the Economic and Social Council, has the primary responsibility for monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action, and emphasizes the need for the Commission to continue its work in broadening its focus so as to fully reflect the Programme of Action;

11. Invites the Secretary-General to ensure that the Task Force on Basic Social Services for All of the Administrative Committee on Coordination informs the Commission and the Economic and Social Council on the progress of its work, with an emphasis on the improvement of the impact of programme delivery for the purpose of system-wide coordination, and stresses the need for close cooperation and timely reporting by all the working groups of the Task Force;

12. Emphasizes the importance of the ongoing efforts of the Task Force to develop, on an urgent basis, appropriate indicators as reliable means for monitoring the progress of the implementation of the Programme of Action, with special attention to the reproductive health needs of individual countries, taking into account relevant research and development work as well as existing data collection systems in developing countries, and to make this information available as it is developed to the Commission on Population and Development, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

13. Endorses the continuation of coordination and collaboration between the Task Force and the appropriate United Nations entities responsible for the development of statistics;

14. Reaffirms that the follow-up to the Conference, at all levels, should take fully into account that population, health, education, poverty, patterns of production and consumption, empowerment of women and the environment are closely interconnected and should be considered through an integrated approach;

15. Recommends that the special session for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, which will be convened from 23 to 27 June 1997, should give due attention to the issue of population in the context of sustainable development;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. Decides to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session, the sub-item "Population and development".

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/51/L.44
27 November 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 98

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMLNT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Kheireddine Ramoul (Algeria), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.8

Progress at mid-decade on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990 and resolution 50/120 of 20 December 1995 and its decisions 47/447 of 22 December 1992, 48/446 of 21 December 1993 and 49/439 of 19 December 1994,

Noting with appreciation the near universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[1] and the significant progress made in national capacities to plan, implement and monitor progress for children within the framework of the needs and rights of the child,

Recognizing the linkage between the eradication of poverty and the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[2] and welcomes the conclusions contained therein;

2. Welcomes the significant progress reported by most countries on achieving the majority of the mid-decade goals and objectives of the World

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[1] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

[2] A/51/256.

Summit for Children, particularly in immunization, the control of diarrhoeal diseases, polio, guinea worm and iodine deficiency disorders, and access to safe water;

3. Welcomes further the overwhelming response of all countries, especially the developing countries, to the commitments agreed at the World Summit for Children;

4. Notes with appreciation the contributions of international and bilateral donors and civil society to the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children;

5. Expresses particular concern that progress on malnutrition, maternal mortality, sanitation, and girls' education has been inadequate, and in some cases, negligible;

6. Takes note with concern of the considerable variation in the progress made across countries and regions due to different baseline conditions in 1990 and the varying rates of progress in relation to the goals;

7. Reaffirms the need for effective follow-up to the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s;[3]

8. Recognizes the need for more intensive efforts in order to reach the goals for child mortality, the education of children, in particular girl children, maternal mortality, child malnutrition and sanitation;

9. Recognizes also the important role of the United Nations system in providing coordinated support for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the World Declaration and Plan of Action and the leadership role of the United Nations Children's Fund;

10. Invites Governments to increase, as appropriate, their budget allocations to basic social services for covering the special needs of children in order to facilitate achieving the goals set out in the World Declaration and Plan of Action;

11. Urges developed countries to make increased efforts to mobilize additional resources for the fulfilment of the goals and objectives of the World Summit for Children and to ensure, in the context of their development assistance, that programmes to that end will have a priority when resources are allocated;

12. Encourages civil society and the private sector to continue to support generously the implementation of the goals of the World Summit for Children;

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[3] A/45/625, annex.

13. Stresses the need for according priority to the special needs of children in regions of slow progress, particularly the least developed countries and sub-Saharan Africa, and in other developing countries that have not yet reached the mid-decade goals;

14. Recognizes the need for continued cooperation and partnership and appropriate international support to those developing countries that have already reached the mid-decade goals or the end-of-decade goals, in order to ensure the sustainability of such achievements;

15. Recognizes also the contribution to the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children of the mutual commitment between interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of national budgets to basic social programmes;

16. Stresses the need to continue strengthening and expanding effective partnerships between Governments, the United Nations system and other international organizations, international donor agencies, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, in order to ensure full achievement of the goals by the year 2000;

17. Stresses also the need for greater efforts to involve children themselves, in accordance with article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in all matters affecting them;

18. Stresses further the need for sustainable progress, in the attainment of goals through, inter alia, support for national capacity-building, including that of local communities and civil society, including non-governmental organizations;

19. Recognizes the importance of fostering exchanges of experience between countries, including South-South cooperation, in order to help disseminate successful programmes;

20. Calls on all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take into account the lessons learned at mid-decade and invites relevant governing bodies to consider specific measures, within their respective competencies, to address the special needs of children for the achievement of the goals for the year 2000, giving priority to issues and areas where progress has been slow;

21. Calls on all relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen inter-agency collaboration regarding improved protection and assistance for children in especially difficult circumstances, including displaced and refugee children, as well as those suffering from exploitation, and to take the necessary steps to ensure that such collaboration is considered in related policies and programmes;

22. Stresses the necessity and importance of setting measurable indicators and targets and of improving data collection and assessment concerning the implementation of all Summit goals as regards child development and protection

as well as survival, including the goal of improved protection of children in especially difficult circumstances;

23. Calls on Governments and their partners, taking into account lessons learned during the mid-decade reviews, to adjust, refine and prioritize, where necessary, their goals and strategies within the framework of the World Declaration and the Plan of Action and in conformity with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to respond to local situations;

24. Calls on Governments and the United Nations system to promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the implementation of the goals of the World Summit for Children;

25. Urges full integration of the follow-up to the Summit goals into the work of the inter-agency task forces and other mechanisms established to ensure a coordinated and effective follow-up to major United Nations conferences;

26. Urges once again all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Rights of the Child as a matter of priority, with a view to reaching the goal of universal adherence established in the World Summit for Children;

27. Decides to convene a special session of the General Assembly in 2001 to review the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children, and that the arrangements for the special session should be considered at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly;

28. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at the special session a review of the implementation and results of the World Declaration and Plan of Action, including appropriate recommendations for further action;

29. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on preparations for the special session and on progress on the implementation of this resolution.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/51/L.45
27 November 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 96

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Mohammad Reza Hadji Karim Djabbary (Islamic Republic of Iran), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.23

Communication for development programmes in the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Noting the report of the Secretary-General on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system,[1] as well as the report prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the sixth Inter-Agency Round Table on Communication for Development, held in Harare from 2 to 5 September 1996, and the report of the Joint Inspection Unit,

1. Recalls its resolution 50/130 of 20 December 1995 on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system;

2. Considers that informal round tables, such as the sixth Inter-Agency Round Table on Communication for Development organized in Harare by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, can constitute a notable mechanism of inter-agency cooperation and coordination for promoting and advancing communication for development due to, inter alia, their openness to partners outside the United Nations system and the outreach of their outcomes;

3. Recognizes the importance of addressing the issue of communication for development within the intergovernmental processes of the United Nations system, according to the respective mandates of the agencies concerned;

[1] A/51/314.

4. Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system,[1] invites the agencies, organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to take the recommendations contained in the report into consideration when planning and implementing relevant projects and programmes, with the cooperation of the resident coordinator;

5. Recognizes the relevance for concerned actors in development at the country level, including policy makers and decision makers at all levels, to attribute increased importance to communication for development, and encourages them to include it, in an appropriate manner, as an integral component in the development of projects and programmes;

6. Stresses the need to support two-way communication systems that enable dialogue and that allow communities to speak out, express their aspirations and concerns, and participate in the decisions that relate to their development;

7. Acknowledges the interest in holding the next informal round table in the Latin American and Caribbean region, to build upon the meetings held in Asia and Africa, and invites interested States to cooperate with the relevant agencies, organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system in the convening of these informal round tables on communication for development, with the participation of the international financial institutions and the regional banks, at the country level;

8. Reaffirms the importance of resource mobilization, including financial cooperation, the transfer of technology, and capacity-building for communication in development programmes and projects, and calls upon the international community and organizations of the United Nations system to assist developing countries in introducing technologies and innovative methods for enhancing communication for development;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in accordance with the agency's mandate, to officially inform the General Assembly, at its fifty-third session, under an appropriate agenda item, on the implementation of the present resolution, in accordance with the periodicity that was agreed upon in Assembly resolution 50/130.